

## POWER OF ATTORNEY FROM ASSIGNEE

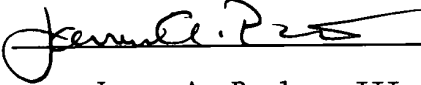
University of Maryland, College Park, a corporation of Maryland, having a principal place of business at 6200 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 300, College Park, Maryland 20742-9520, is assignee of the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America (as defined in 35 U.S.C. § 100), by reason of an Assignment to the Assignee executed on (1) Dec 14 2001, (2) Dec 14 2001, and (3) Dec 14 2001 of an invention known as A Method and Apparatus for a Common-Cause Failure Module for Probabilistic Risk Assessment Tools (Attorney Docket No. 1797.0510000), which is disclosed and claimed in a patent application of the same title by the inventors (1) Franciscus J. GROEN, (2) Carol S. SMIDTS, and (3) Ali MOSLEH (said application filed on October 9, 2001 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, having Application Number 09/971,765).

The Assignee hereby appoint the U.S. attorneys associated with **CUSTOMER NUMBER 28393** to prosecute this application and any continuation, divisional, continuation-in-part, or reissue application thereof, and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, such attorneys currently being: Robert Greene Sterne, Esq., Reg. No. 28,912; Edward J. Kessler, Esq., Reg. No. 25,688; Jorge A. Goldstein, Esq., Reg. No. 29,021; David K.S. Cornwell, Esq., Reg. No. 31,944; Robert W. Esmond, Esq., Reg. No. 32,893; Tracy-Gene G. Durkin, Esq., Reg. No. 32,831; Michele A. Cimbala, Esq., Reg. No. 33,851; Michael B. Ray, Esq., Reg. No. 33,997; Robert E. Sokohl, Esq., Reg. No. 36,013; Eric K. Steffe, Esq., Reg. No. 36,688; Michael Q. Lee, Esq., Reg. No. 35,239; Steven R. Ludwig, Esq., Reg. No. 36,203; John M. Covert, Esq., Reg. No. 38,759; and Linda E. Alcorn, Esq., Reg. No. 39,588. The Assignee hereby grants said attorneys the power to insert on this Power of Attorney any further identification that may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Send correspondence to:

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.  
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
U.S.A.

Direct phone calls to 202-371-2600.

FOR: University of Maryland, College Park  
SIGNATURE:   
BY: James A. Poulos, III  
TITLE: Executive Director  
DATE: Dec 18 2001